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# COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health  
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

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January 2000

Volume 9, Number 1

## Awards to be Presented at State Conference

**T**hree awards will be presented during an awards ceremony at the state conference. One award will recognize an organization/community partner who helps a local program. Assistance from the community partner could be in the form of funding, referral information, offering the women in your Program support, or other services. Another award will recognize a volunteer in a program.

Also, a Public Awareness Award will be presented to local agencies, including media that assist a program with its mission.

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) State Conference is scheduled for May 22 and 23, 2000 in Austin at the Omni Southpark Hotel.

BCCCP will soon distribute nomination forms for the awards. An Awards Committee will review the

nominations. All nominees will receive an acknowledgment from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Winners will receive a special award. Nominations must be submitted to BCCCP by April 1, 2000.

For more information on the awards and to receive a nomination form, contact Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, at (800) 452-1955.

## National Program Celebrates 10 Years

**R**ecognizing the value of screening and early detection, Congress passed the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990. This act authorized the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide critical breast and

cervical cancer screening services to underserved women, including older women, women with low incomes, and women of racial and ethnic minority groups.

Through its landmark National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), CDC now supports screening activities in 50 states, six U.S. territories, in the District of Columbia, and through 15 American Indian/Alaska Native organizations.

More than two million screening tests have been provided by the NBCCEDP since 1990. The Program has provided nearly one million mammograms and diagnosed more than 5,000 cases of breast cancer. In addition, the Program has

provided over one million Pap tests and detected 31,000 cases of treatable, precancerous cervical lesions, and identified more than 500 cases of invasive cervical cancer.

Future plans of the Program include developing effective strategies to improve rescreening rates among women enrolled in the Program, creating effective education and outreach strategies for reaching women who have been rarely or never screened for cervical cancer, expanding case management services to ensure that women enrolled in the NBCCEDP receive timely and appropriate rescreening, diagnostic, and treatment services,

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## BCCCP Briefs

### Announcements

Congratulations to Stephen Wright who is leaving BCCCP to be the new Director of Communications for the Texas Department of Health.

### Training

The Nurse Oncology Education Program (NOEP) is funded by BCCCP to provide breast and cervical cancer education to nurses throughout the state. Courses are scheduled for the following times and locations:

**February 11 - Brownsville**

**March 3 - Texarkana**

**April 15 - Wichita Falls**

Call NOEP at (800) 515-6770 for more information and registration.



### Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

#### General Information/Administration:

Margaret Méndez Robert Reeves  
Shannon Burke Lisa Bishop  
Christina Rogers Cathy Cox

#### Professional Education, Clinical Services, Case Management:

Karen Knox Karen McAnarney  
Claudia Himes

#### Public Information and Outreach:

Andrea Littlefield

#### Data Collection and Maintenance:

Vincent Crawley Codie Prinz  
Wanda Gibson Steve Johnson  
June Browning Constance Holloway

#### Data Collection Forms

Wanda Gibson

#### Cancer Epidemiology/Demographics:

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#### Billing:

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email: margaret.mendez (or other staff first name, period and last name)@tdh.state.tx.us

### Website Address

<http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/bcccp/>

### Local Changes

Please write or call Lisa Bishop, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955 with **ANY** changes in local telephone numbers, personnel or service delivery sites. *Thank you.*

## New Program Addresses Cervical Cancer Education and Prevention

**T**he National Cervical Cancer Coalition (NCCC) has begun its Cervical Cancer Education and Prevention Program (CCEPP) focusing on healthcare workers and women at risk who may benefit by additional information on issues related to cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is a preventable cancer through early detection. The CCEPP will travel nationwide (and worldwide) with the clear message that cervical cancer is a preventable cancer. Traveling with the CCEPP will be the very personal cervical cancer quilt. The cervical cancer quilt is made by women and family members who have had to battle cervical cancer, including pre-cancerous lesions. The cervical cancer quilt will provide an emotional backdrop and put a personal face on all the individuals in the population groups cervical cancer strikes.

CCEPP will provide public outreach efforts in conjunction with medical meetings and government awareness campaigns. Outreach

efforts will include local events through the newly established local chapters of NCCC.

The NCCC has run a toll free line for over two years which provides educational information on cervical cancer and cancer issues that have been published by the National Institute of Health. Materials have been developed in Spanish, Vietnamese and Korean. Visit their website at: <http://www.nccc-online.org>.

The NCCC has challenged health-care providers nationwide to provide FREE Pap tests on January 14, 2000 to any woman who has not had a Pap test in three years. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is supporting the free Pap test day during January, Cervical Health Awareness Month.

For additional information on the NCCC, contact Mr. Alan Kaye, Executive Director at (818) 909-3849.

### National Program Celebrates 10 Years from page 1

and to continue to link with key partners in the prevention and early detection of breast and cervical cancers.

The Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP)

has made significant contributions to the national program. BCCCP will share some of its milestones at the State Conference, May 22 - 23, 2000, in Austin.

#### Mission

The mission of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce the impact of breast and cervical cancer in Texas by promoting access to quality information, screening, diagnosis and treatment in Texas communities.

#### Goal

The goal of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce premature mortality from breast cancer and cervical cancer in Texas.

## Ask the Expert

*Don't forget, you can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.*



Do we need to send a reminder to someone we know is no longer eligible (e.g., eligible for Medicare, 65 or older, moved) for Program services? Our staff does not want to sign the certification (on the Reminder List) if they are not really doing this.



Technically, the requirement to send a reminder to every woman whose name appears on the rescreening list is a policy requirement. But, the provider's concern is well taken. We will address this concern with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and with the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program Rescreening Committee. Our guidance for now is that providers do not need to send a reminder card to a woman who is no longer eligible for Program services. However, you must be able to document that the woman is not eligible. Either sign the form to certify that the reminder was sent or have documentation that a woman on the list is not eligible for Program services.

## Photos Needed for Exhibit

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) is creating a new exhibit for the Program. The exhibit will feature local providers and events held in communities. We hope to include photos from around the state.

Please send us photos from events you have held, including the negative (if possible), and a brief description of the event held. Also, mention the priority population that was reached during the event. Send photos **by March 1, 2000** to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, Texas Department of Health, BCCCP, 1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street, G407, Austin, Texas 78756.

If you have further questions about this project, please contact Andrea Littlefield at (800) 452-1955.

## We're Moving

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) is now a part of the new Bureau of Women's Health. BCCCP joins Maternal Health and Family Planning in this new Bureau as be a part of the Associateship for Community Resources and Development.

"We believe this move can enhance our services to women. This move will allow us to have a greater continuum of services to offer the eligible population," said Margaret Méndez, BCCCP Program Director.

## Case Management Funds Awarded

Case management has been a part of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) since 1994. As of this fiscal year, there are several newly funded case management programs. The programs and funds were awarded to eight contracts serving 23 BCCCP contractors. Funds were awarded to have the broadest impact on women screened and likely to suffer delays in the diagnosis or treatment of cancer.

Contractors awarded funding for case management are UTMB, Planned Parenthood of Cameron and Willacy Counties, Tarrant County, Barrio Comprehensive Family Health Care, YWCA of Lubbock, Public Health Region 8, Public Health Region 9/10, and City of

Laredo. Other BCCCP providers that are participating in the case management programs are: Harris County Hospital District, Planned Parenthood of Houston, Jasper-Newton Health Department, Galveston County Health District, Planned Parenthood of Dallas, Texas Woman's University, YWCA of Dallas, Parkland Hospital, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, University Health System, Ella Austin Health Center, United Medical Centers, Ft. Duncan Medical Center, Community Council of South Central Texas, and Medina Community Hospital.

For further information on these programs or other case management activities, contact Karen Knox, Case Management Coordinator, at (800) 452-1955.

## Outreach Materials Available

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) has several public education materials available to providers.

### Milestone Awards

Milestone Awards for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program are given every quarter to providers who achieve high results in several indicator areas. Providers are divided into three categories, based on the number of clients they have screened in the previous fiscal year.

A table is inserted in this issue of *Commitment* which lists each provider and their assigned group.

Providers in the small group have performed 0 - 300 screenings, the medium group has performed 301 - 700 screenings, and the large group has performed more than 701 screenings.

Contact Wanda Gibson, Public Health Technician, at (800) 452-1955 regarding the awards.

BCCCP has thousands of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's brochure *Breast Health and You*. These brochures are available in English and Spanish. There are also some remaining placemats (English and Spanish) and greeting cards (Spanish only).

The beads used to create necklaces to teach women about lump sizes have arrived. Providers may order supplies to make the necklaces.

Quantities of some items are limited. Contact Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, at (800) 452-1955 to order materials.

#### Texas BCCCP\*

Women Served:

117,389

Breast Screenings:

148,375

Cervical Screenings:

109,245

Breast Cancers:

773

Cervical Carcinoma in situ:

1619

Invasive Cervical Cancer:

57

\*As of December 6, 1999

## Important Dates

### January

Implementation of new data forms and CD numbers

January - Cervical Health Month

January 12 - State Conference Planning Committee Meeting, Austin

January 14 - Pap Test Event

January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day - State Office Closed

January 19 - Confederate Heroes Day - Skeleton Crew at State Office

January 21 - Material Review Team Meeting, Austin

January 25 - Train the Trainer - Austin

January 26 - Rescreening Committee Meeting, Austin

### February

February 11 - NOEP Training, Brownsville

February 21 - Presidents' Day State Office Closed

### March

March - National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

March 2 - Texas Independence Day Skeleton Crew at State Office

March 3 - NOEP Training, Texarkana

### April

April - Cancer Control Month

April 17 - 23 - National Minority Cancer Awareness Week

April 21 - San Jacinto Day Skeleton Crew at State Office

### May

May 22 - 23 - State Conference

May 29 - Memorial Day State Office Closed

## Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED